

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning resistor comprising:

a panel member formed with an opening for an operating element and an airflow port;

a retainer formed on the panel member so as to communicate with the airflow port and to define interiorly an airflow passage for allowing air-conditioning air to flow therethrough;

a lateral fin ~~pivotably~~pivotally supported in the retainer and being capable of adjusting a wind direction of the air-conditioning air in a vertical direction;

a vertical fin ~~pivotably~~pivotally supported in the retainer and being capable of adjusting the wind direction of the air-conditioning air in the lateral ~~direction;~~ and direction;

a spherical operating element which can operate the vertical fin and the lateral fin simultaneously and has a partial spherical surface arranged so as to project from the opening for the operating element, wherein a recess is formed on the spherical operating element; and

a ring-shaped operating element on the outer peripheral side of and adjacent to the spherical operating element.

2. (Original) An air-conditioning resistor according to claim 1, wherein the spherical operating element comprises an operation angle display element on the partial spherical surface, and the coordinate of the operation angle display element at the opening for the operating element and the wind direction of the air-conditioning air blown out from the airflow port correspond to each other.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning resistor according to claim 3, wherein the ring-shaped operating element includes a cylindrical dial and is used for adjusting the temperature of the air-conditioning air.

5. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning resistor according to claim 1, further comprising a lateral fin link ~~mechanism for~~mechanism, for mechanically linking the spherical operating element and the lateral fin, and a vertical fin link ~~mechanism for~~mechanism, for mechanically linking the spherical operating element and the vertical fin.

6. (Original) An air-conditioning resistor according to claim 5, wherein the spherical operating element comprises a bipolar portion including an upper polar surface, a lower polar surface and an equator portion storage frame defined between the upper polar surface and the lower polar surface, and an equator portion being stored in the equator portion storage frame with an allowance for a pivotal movement in a lateral direction, and wherein the bipolar portion is mechanically linked with the lateral fin via the lateral fin link mechanism, and the equator portion is mechanically linked with the vertical fin via the vertical fin link.

7. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning resistor according to claim 1, further comprising a shut damper ~~pivotably~~pivotally supported in the retainer and being capable of opening and closing the airflow path, the spherical operating element can also operate the shut damper.

8. (Currently amended) An operating unit comprising:

a spherical operating element having a partial spherical surface arranged so as to be projected from an opening of the panel member, wherein a recess is formed on the spherical operating element; and

a ring-shaped operating element arranged on an outer peripheral side of the spherical operating element so as to be adjacent thereto.

9. (Currently amended) An operating unit according to claim 8, further comprising:

a first member directly or indirectly supported in the panel member ~~pivotably~~pivotally in a vertical direction; and

a second member directly or indirectly supported in the panel member ~~pivotably~~pivotally in a ~~lateral~~lateral direction,

wherein the spherical operating element can operate the first and second members simultaneously.

10. (Original) An operating unit according to claim 9, wherein the spherical operating element comprises a bipolar portion including an upper polar surface, a lower polar surface and an equator portion storage frame defined between the upper polar surface and the lower polar surface, and an equator portion being stored in the equator portion storage frame with an allowance for a pivotal movement in a lateral direction, and wherein the bipolar portion is mechanically linked with the first member and the equator portion is mechanically linked with the second member.